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CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INC.
—AFFILIATED—
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF DAY NURSERIES, INC.

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BULLETIN

JANUARY, 1937

"... there is a tremendous amount of work to be accomplished for the childhood of America."

—DR. SAM A. LOVEMAN, *The American Legion*

Steps in Cleveland's Nutrition Program

(The following report has been written for the BULLETIN by Miss Victoria K. Ball, nutrition consultant, The Welfare Federation of Cleveland, upon suggestion of Lawrence C. Cole, executive secretary, The Cleveland Children's Bureau.)

THE Welfare Federation of Cleveland, which is the administrative agency for the Community Fund, began its nutrition program in September, 1934. The work was inaugurated by members of the Children's Council of the Federation who felt that the curtailed funds of the institutions during depression years made it more necessary to insure that the food budgets should not be reduced below the level necessary to secure proper nutrition and that these funds should be wisely spent so that the most favorable nutrition at that price level would be obtained.

Dedicated to this purpose, a committee on nutrition and diets—composed of institutional representatives, prominent physicians, and nutrition workers—was appointed, and the part-time services of a member of the staff of the department of home economics of Western Reserve University, Victoria K. Ball, were obtained.

The method of procedure from this point was somewhat indeterminate, both to nutrition consultant and to committee. Upon investigation it was learned that no precedent had been set for similar work in any other city in the United States. Since then, similar work has been introduced in at least two cities, New Orleans and New Haven, and contact between the three fields of work is insuring a similarity of procedure in the main essentials, allowing, of course, for necessary local differences.

It was deemed wise, at first, to limit the scope of the nutrition work to children's institutions. Here any nutritional errors would prove most serious and far-reaching in results.

A study of actual current food costs was then made. This was done through the splendid cooperation of five institutions. As it was desired to make the study inclusive with respect to the adequacy of the diets, the weight of all food used during this period was taken and the total poundage of the various food classes was thus obtained. The published result, entitled, "A Study of Diets with Respect to Costs and Nutritional Value in Five Cleveland Institutions Caring for Children," contained an analysis of the diets based upon methods outlined in standard textbooks for dietetics. The study showed that there were differences between the diets, and it was agreed by all that some improvement in nutritional efficiency at the same cost could be effected. It was noted, likewise, that the spread of costs between the institutions was greater than seemed warranted.

The next step was to determine just what legitimate food costs and food amounts should be. The Bureau of Home Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture is the agency in our republic which does just this standardizing work. Consequently, after taking a careful census of the institutions, we divided them on the basis of average age of children and staff into the age groups given in Bulletin 296 of the Bureau, "Diets at Four Levels of Nutritive Content and Costs." Following this, it was very easy to find the poundage of the various food types advised for an adequate diet at minimum cost and to translate this diet into wholesale amounts for an average institution of fifty inhabitants, to locate its total and then its per capita costs.

These costs have been re-established each year, taking into consideration changing food prices and changing personnel in the institutions, and have been recommended to the budget committee of the Children's Council of the Welfare Federation as the mini-

(Continued on page 6)

Day-Time and Night-Time Parents

(Following is an extract from a paper presented by Mrs. Anita Waldhorst Lockwood, director, foster home department, Brooklyn Nursery and Infants' Hospital, Brooklyn, New York, at a joint meeting of the National Federation of Day Nurseries and the Child Welfare League of America, Atlantic City, N. J., May 28, 1936, on "The Needs of Infants and Pre-School Children of Dependent Families.")

IT is children from financially and emotionally dependent families with whom the day nursery usually has to deal. The children are sent, not as children to a nursery school through the choice of the parents because they realize the elements of growth which come to a child through working and playing with his peers; but because of a breakdown in the family life. It seems desirable, therefore, for us to consider the emotional factors affecting the child, who, in addition to the adjustment in his own home, has to make a recurrent adjustment to institutional care in the day nursery.

Let us consider a typical day nursery child, a year-old baby. In spite of the economic situation in his home, and the unsound way in which the baby has been cared for, he may have been having, to him, a completely satisfying experience. The family might be depriving itself in order that the baby may have proper food. He may be having constant attention, much handling and rocking. He may be having a bottle, though he is more than a year old, and in every way has been receiving so much attention that he is not ready for weaning of any sort. He then leaves the home in which he has had this type of care, and goes to live by day in an environment where he is only one of many babies sharing adult attention. At one time he must begin the process of learning to drink from a cup, of establishing sphincter control, of giving up prerogatives of babyhood.

Sometimes a child responds to the wise handling by a mother substitute, and is better able to get along at home than he was before, but often he suffers from the lack of continuity or consistency in his training, and from the abrupt necessity of accepting a mother substitute. I have known many children who have had periods of substitute parental care in infancy, and have shown marked personality problems later. We are forced to believe that the baby who fails to get satisfaction and security in his first two years shows serious lacks later.

WHAT is happening to the parents in the meantime? If we go back to the premise that the child should have security with his own parents, we must grant that

the parents should feel they are not being supplanted, and they must have new ways of training explained to them in such a way that it will not be destructive. They must not have so painful a feeling of criticism that they cannot carry out the new procedures.

We all know that the parent who has neglected his child is often the most critical one at the nursery. The father who examines his baby's body for scratches and bruises, and complains that the baby is improperly fed, may be only projecting upon the nursery his own guilt because he brings his baby to the agency while his wife works. The person who cares for his child must not seem to give it better care than his wife did, or the hurt to him would be intolerable. He must punish some one, and therefore he attempts to punish the nursery worker.

The mother who objects to her baby's being weaned, or who thinks other babies hurt him, or are preferred to him, may be one whose child came at a time when she had no money to take care of a baby, who had tried to "get rid" of him, and then passionately tried to make up to him for the fact that she had not wanted him. If, in addition to this, she is an unmarried mother, she has her own special load of guilt and social disapproval, for which she must compensate, and she may think no one is good enough to take care of him.

The greatest need, then, of dependent children of that group with which we deal is to have us interpret to their parents the ways in which we are taking care of their children, and to do this not only in words but also by our own attitudes and feelings about the children, the work, and the parents.

We must have substitute mothers who can love the child sufficiently to give him happiness, yet not so possessively as to resent returning him to his own parents at night. We must have substitute mothers who do not need to be considered perfect themselves, who can re-train children without becoming defensive, themselves, if the child does not measure up to accepted standards of behavior very soon after reaching the nursery, or without feeling the need to punish the child who has tantrums or is unhappy in the group.

New League Directory

THE 1937 Directory of Members of the Child Welfare League of America is on the press, and will be ready for distribution the latter part of January. Price, 50 cents. (One copy will be supplied without charge to each member agency of the League.)

Summer Institutes for Students

(In sending the following report, Leon W. Frost, general secretary, Children's Aid Society, Detroit, has expressed interest in knowing through the medium of the BULLETIN of other efforts in similar directions.)

AFTER several summers of unorganized volunteer work at the Children's Aid Society, Detroit, it was decided that this system was ineffective as well as unfair to those engaged in it. Volunteers spent all of their time working under one visitor, and received their general opinion and knowledge of the organization entirely through one person. Their training was incomplete and often resulted in a false perspective. Frequently the volunteer became an errand runner and spent much time in transporting children, in making brief calls. Usually no volunteer was sent on a regular call alone.

Most of the volunteers were college students who were interested in getting field work experience which would later enable them to secure social service positions. It was felt for some time that the situation should be corrected so that volunteers could be given a broader understanding of the organization's functioning. Attempts were made to work specifically with each individual visitor and her volunteer. The plan proved to be unsatisfactory.

In the summer of 1934, the first Annual Institute of the Children's Aid Society was established. This institute was a formalized course for student workers; it had no connection with the previous volunteer system. Following the new plan, students enrolled in the institute for two months of intensive work, including lectures and field work. College credit was given by the schools from which the students came. Upon the conclusion of the 1934 institute there was no doubt as to the success of the idea. In 1935 a second institute was held; the mistakes of 1934 were rectified, and additions in training procedure were made. The second institute proved to be a more complete course than its predecessor and enjoyed greater success. As a natural successor came the third annual institute, which was held at the Children's Aid Society building from June 22 to August 14, 1936.

AN outline of the student training program has been prepared as a guide for the colleges and for the student in order that both may know in advance what to expect in the training course. In it are set down the methods to be used and the activities involved. The outline is organized to show the particular col-

lege offering credit for the course, the value of training in relation to the scholastic work given. Further, the outline provides the agency with a plan of training which must be followed. It is assurance that a well-rounded program of student training in the field of child care work has been placed in operation.

The training is divided into two divisions: that of instruction and that of field work. In the former, the student is taught the principles and methods of procedure used in the Children's Aid Society and in the other child caring agencies in Detroit. As an initial step the student is acquainted with the facilities and resources of the society. Each part of the building is shown and explained as preliminary to student orientation. The function and procedure of each department is made clear through examples, and the student is given the opportunity to study the forms used in the preparation of various types of cases. For his convenience the society has a set of procedure books. Sample records of many types of cases are available for study in the agency reference room. Case conferences, lectures, and outside activities pertaining to child welfare work are included in the student program.

A system of individualized teaching by the staff has been devised on the basis of past experience. The more matured workers are detailed as mentors. These mentors act as teachers and guides under the direction of the regular supervisors. The mentors direct the students' activities and demonstrate the various features of case work technique, explaining the results to be achieved. The student accompanies his mentor on supervisory calls in both natural and boarding homes where rehabilitation and adjustment are in progress. Before the visit, the student reads the case record, and the mentor explains the purpose of the call. The student observes the mentor on the call and discusses the interview when it has been concluded.

The student also visits other agencies with the mentor to read and summarize records. In this way he becomes acquainted with the social agencies of Detroit, and he learns to read individual records profitably and swiftly. Collateral calls at the schools are made with the mentor as guide. The student also is given the opportunity to observe the mentor conduct office interviews, and thus to witness another method of service approach. As a final step in the period of instruction, the student accompanies the

(Continued on page 7)

BULLETIN

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C. C. CARSTENS, Editor
FLORENCE M. PHARO, Assistant Editor

The Bulletin is in large measure a Forum for discussion in print of child welfare problems. Endorsement does not necessarily go with the printing of opinions expressed over a signature.

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The Prevention of Delinquency

No single social problem is as serious a blot on this nation's escutcheon as that of the extent of juvenile delinquency and crime.

That there is a close relationship between juvenile delinquency and crime is well established. The majority of the law breakers committed in any one year throughout the United States under the criminal law are twenty years of age or younger, and the majority of those in our penal institutions at any one time are not yet twenty-three years old.

If all the facts were known about our law breakers we would find that a large percentage of them had committed many and some had committed very serious delinquencies in their adolescent and even in their pre-adolescent years.

The problem of crime is therefore a youthful problem. If we are to prevent it we must deal with our youth and at an early age.

But this fact alone should not discourage us. Almost all youths are little, restless, untrained animals at some time in their careers. What should concern us is that we so organize our educational, social and municipal activities and forces that we recognize our responsibilities toward the prevention of delinquency, and assume the obligation laid upon us to guide and train the youth into self-control, which is the only effective method of keeping them from slipping into serious delinquency and crime.

There is a strong inclination to blame the parents for all the wrongdoing of their children. Doubtless many parents could do more than they are doing to teach their children wholesome lessons, but community life is different from what it was fifty years or even twenty-five years ago. All the community's forces, and particularly those of the municipality, must share in carrying a load which we still like to lay entirely upon the parents of the young delinquent.

Others would find the solution in elaborate social machinery, but this will be found useful only as far as there are vital and wholesome personalities to interest, guide and train our youth when something else is needed than the family, the church, and the school to bring the right results.

Most children, fortunately, through the efforts of their parents, halting as they may be at times in their efforts, work through into self-control and successful community life. When the parents' work is unavailing, school, church, and social agencies must assume additional responsibilities, but their effectiveness will depend in large measure on the personal work of some strong man or woman who learns to understand the youth and develops within him new and compelling interests which will swing his activities into more wholesome channels.

If these agencies have failed, the juvenile court may have to be appealed to. At this crucial time it once more requires some wholesome, interested person who will find the destructive tendencies in the youth's life and will guide him into safer channels. It is personality that counts all along the line.

—C. C. CARSTENS

Paul Cornell Accepts Directorship

THE Child Welfare League of America is glad to announce election of Paul Cornell, of New York City and Washington, Connecticut, to membership on its board of directors.

Mr. Cornell is widely known as chairman of the board of the American Association of Advertising Agencies, and president of the large New York advertising agency, Geyer, Cornell and Newell. In his business career, he has been connected with Marshall Field and Company, B. F. Goodrich Company, and Bird and Son. As president of the Romford School in Connecticut, Mr. Cornell is recognized as a leader in educational and career work for boys. During the War, he served overseas with the American Ambulance in Italy and was decorated.

Seventeenth Camping Convention

At a three-day conference, February 4-6, Hotel Statler, Detroit, under the auspices of the American Camping Association (national office, Lane Hall, Ann Arbor, Michigan), the theme will be, "New Horizons for Camping"—which the Association deems particularly appropriate in view of the fact that it has been given \$100,000 by the Chrysler Fund for guiding the future development of camping. Comprehensive research and promotional plans will be presented to the convention delegates. Herbert H. Twining is executive director of the Association.

The Adopted Child

THE ADOPTED CHILD, by Eleanor Garrigue Gallagher. A John Day book, published by Reynal and Hitchcock, 386 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y., 1936. 291 pages. \$2.50.

Note: This book was reviewed in the September, 1936, issue of the BULLETIN by Margaret G. Bourne, Consultant, Probate Court, County of Cuyahoga, Cleveland; and in the October, 1936, issue, by Maud Morlock, Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C. As the subject of child adoption is of major interest, further comments are being presented.

MORRIS L. BRIDGEMAN, M.D., The Children's Clinic, Portland, Oregon:

It is regrettable that the first book written on adopting a child should be so unsatisfactory. . . . It is difficult in several places, especially the chapter on "Heredity and Environment," clearly to understand the writer. She boldly leads the reader one way, and then inserts an opinion contrary to the thought until the reader becomes lost.

On page 90 she interprets Charles H. Mayo as follows: "Dr. Charles H. Mayo recently predicted that within five years a drug injected into the body of a feeble-minded or insane person would restore that individual to the full use of his faculties. This drug even now is being used experimentally." This statement makes one believe that the writer feels that people can adopt any feeble-minded children of poor heredity and then wait for this most ingenious drug. But to end this paragraph she quotes Charles Mayo: "I am sure that we now have a drug that will change the blood circulation of the brain and will prove especially effective in the case of young persons suffering from dementia praecox." I am sure that Charles Mayo would not be pleased with the interpretation given, but would be glad that his exact words were published.

The chapter on heredity and environment might be dismissed, as was done by one reviewer with the entire book: it is neither fish, flesh, nor fowl.

The question of intelligence tests comes in for a ribbing. The writer shows how they may have been poorly applied. Such is true of any test, whether laboratory or intelligence. The intelligence test is very valuable when it is made by a good examiner and then reviewed in the light of the patient. It should not be final any more than the blood count would be to determine appendicitis, but should be considered and reviewed in the light of the social background and environment by a person well based on adoptions.

To advise a parent not to have an I.Q. run if the baby smiles, eats well, sleeps well, hears, responds to your touch, plays, takes an interest in things about him, is very poor advice. One who has observed parents, and the adoptive parent is no different, bring in their hopelessly feeble-minded children and then have them explain how rapidly the child is progressing, can only feel that an unbiased sound person should judge the question of a child's mentality. So often I have seen mothers with a six-year-old idiot who couldn't utter a sensible word explain to me, "Why, he understands everything."

The chapters on illegitimacy, unmarried mothers, and the social worker's rôle in adoption have certain ideas that are sound but could be brought out in a better light. The question of whether a child should be removed from the breast and whether artificial feeding can be substituted is a question that has waged with the pediatricians for years. Many a pediatrician of outstanding reputation would take exception to views offered here. Removing the child from the mother so that she does not become attached is a different question, and would have to be decided upon each individual case. It is true that the mother of an illegitimate child should be protected and aided in every human way, but it might be more human if society in some way could aid and protect the unfortunate girl so that she could maintain her own child.

Views of any adoption procedure are always controversial but one view must always be kept and that is the welfare of the child. The solution of any adoption *might* be safely handled by a lay board but certainly not by *all*—for too few people have made a study of adoption to look rationally upon the principles. It would be sad if this book were used for such a pattern.

To criticize this book further is difficult when it has been so ably reviewed. One can only say "Amen" to the review in the *Journal of Pediatrics*, November, 1936.

HERMAN NEWMAN, superintendent, Kansas Children's Home and Service League, Topeka, Kansas:

I feel that the writing of the book, "The Adopted Child," was a sadly misdirected effort. One need not read long to discover that it is an apology for the policies of The Cradle in Evanston, but its objective is not so evident—to influence legislation in the offing, or meet some serious criticisms? Perhaps the book is just an overflow of pride in a unique exhibit.

A danger of the book is the impression it leaves that Cradle practices are generally acceptable. The

fine nursery technique spills over and covers up many weaknesses. As far as indicated, no visit is made to a prospective foster home; after a child is taken, a visit is considered an unwarranted intrusion; because some information given about paternity is unreliable, no record at all should be made; prospective parents should ask for no specific information about the child; trained volunteers are preferred to graduate social workers.

From a social service point of view, the keeping of babies in a nursery where the Dick technique is needed is simply creating an artificial dilemma which glorifies the technique. Using boarding home care for infants, our organization in the last ten years, with an intake of 600 babies, has not lost a single one by contagion. Our death rate has been less than one per cent, though we have taken diseased and delicate babies as well as picked specimens such as The Cradle accepts. The cost of good boarding home care is far less than good institutional care.

We do not see how any one with so low an opinion of boarding homes for babies could conscientiously permit a child to leave the protective, aseptic quarters of The Cradle and go out into a free foster home which has not been so much as visited by a representative of the institution.

We agree with the author that unmarried mothers have rights and that their confidences should be respected. Their babies also have rights which are equally sacred and which our social workers must take into consideration in dealing with unmarried parents and their children.

ELIZABETH YERXA, director, Juvenile Department, State Board of Control of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin:

It is almost impossible to discuss this book point by point, for the fundamentals of Mrs. Gallagher's philosophy and that of the Juvenile Department of the State Board of Control of Wisconsin are so far apart. . . . The standards, policies and even legislation for the protection of children, both illegitimate and legitimate, are not autocratically decided upon by a state child welfare department. It is customary for conferences to be held of all the individuals and agencies interested. After weeks and sometimes months of deliberation, decisions are made and recommendations are given either to a committee of the legislature for bills to be presented later to the legislature, or to the state department for standards and policies regarding the work of these agencies.

I know of no good child welfare legislation passed in recent years which has not expressed the best

thinking of those interested in the welfare of children, and I know of no policies or standards used by a state child welfare department which are not the recommendations of the private child welfare agencies working in that particular field of child welfare. In fact, the standards recommended through such conferences and committees of the licensed child welfare agencies are always more drastic than any which might be proposed directly by the state child welfare department. . . .

It seems Mrs. Gallagher believes that "social workers" are busybodies and that "investigation" means getting a few superficial statements, when in reality most social workers attempting to work with the illegitimate child are mature, sympathetic, understanding women, attempting to evaluate all that can be verified or known regarding the child, his background and parents, before daring even to suggest a plan which will influence the entire lifetime of the child, his natural parents and his foster parents, as well as the community in which he lives.

Steps in Cleveland's Nutrition Program

(Continued from page 1)

imum food budgets below which it is inadvisable to go. In practically all cases it has been possible to assure the institutions sufficient funds to keep to the indicated minimum food cost level. This year, Bulletin 1757 has superseded Bulletin 296 as a guide to food amounts.

THE assurance of money, however, offers the solution to only the first part of the institutional nutrition problem. The assurance that the money will be well spent is the second consideration. This means a program of investigation and education and checking, not superimposed by the committee on the institution but joined in by committee and institution to insure the best nutrition for the child. It must be remembered that in this work of a pioneer nature the committee as well as the institution had to study ways and means.

We at first took the required foods and attempted to arrange them into suitable type menus which might be followed as a guide by the institution. Specific examples of their use are published monthly in a nutrition bulletin which is issued by the Welfare Federation. An interesting comparative study made by two institutions following these menus illustrated

the fact that individual institutions differed so much in working out the same menu plan that the institution could not feel assured of maximum nutrition simply because its menus conformed to pattern. Consequently, it was thought that there should be some method of recording which would enable an institution to tell concurrently whether or not it was using the requisite amounts of various foods and whether their cost was what it should be.

It should be mentioned that at this stage of the game the thirteen camps affiliated with the Welfare Federation came into the picture. Here the service of the committee on nutrition and diets was particularly solicited in the hope that some standards and guides might be established which would carry over from year to year and would function regardless of shifting personnel in the commissary departments. In order to accomplish this, the camps were willing to carry out records which have been of immeasurable assistance in standardizing the work. This was furthered by the service in several camps of students of home economics who were obtaining college credit for this type of very important field work. Iowa State College, Ohio Wesleyan University and Western Reserve University have all cooperated in this respect.

Several records were designed which would give the camp or institution a running picture of its food situation. The nutrition office, as one of its services, will take the information found on the record forms and will give the institution a monthly analysis of its diet. These forms have been and still are in the process of alteration in the interest of simplicity and clarity. They were published in 1936 in a booklet, "Camp Nutrition," which can be obtained from the Welfare Federation of Cleveland (1900 Euclid Avenue) for one dollar. A similar guide book covering the institutional phases of our work is in the process of compilation.

WE feel that we have laid a foundation by determining what institutional food costs and institutional market baskets should be for our locality. We count on the credit side of the ledger the fact that during the three years' work the spread of institutional food costs, which previously had been great and disproportionate, is now within a legitimate range, and an aggregate saving of money has been effected even though in several cases food budgets were definitely increased.

But with this the real work has scarcely begun. Two avenues have been barely trod upon. We need to popularize our work by more extensive consulta-

tion service, and we need to check the results of our work through more careful estimates of the nutritional status of our children. In behalf of the first objective, we believe that the personal touch is—in the last analysis—the only effective link between nutrition program and institution. In behalf of the last, we believe that the nutrition program should fit into the complete child health program to the mutual benefit of each.

Summer Institutes for Students

(Continued from page 3)

mentor on first investigations, always observing and later discussing the method utilized.

After the instruction has been in progress for a reasonable period of time, the student steps into the field independently, but he remains under the close supervision and guidance of his mentor. The student is gradually introduced to the techniques, purposes, and to the actual work of a child protective organization.

His service is carefully analyzed in order that his personal experience may be of greatest value. He is brought to a realization of the confidential nature of his work and of the necessity for accuracy. Thus prepared, he can make supervisory calls alone to observe significant changes and to evaluate more intelligently the situation with a view to adjustment. At the beginning only the more simple cases are assigned for independent work, the more difficult reserved until the student has gradually gained in ability and confidence. While every opportunity is given to do serious field work, it is obvious that certain cases must be handled by only the most experienced and matured staff members.

It is the feeling of the Children's Aid Society workers that the present program, definitely outlined and precisely followed, has brought about in a minimum period of time a more accurate and intelligent brand of student case work. The University of Michigan, Notre Dame, Wayne University, and other schools and colleges have recognized the results and are providing credits toward degrees for their student workers who register for this practical training course.

Day Nursery Article

REPRINTS are available of the article, "Whom Can the Day Nursery Serve?" by Miss Laura Jean Keiser, general secretary, The Filamy Society of New Haven, Connecticut, which appeared in *The Family*, November, 1936. Price, 5 cents. National Federation of Day Nurseries, 130 East 22nd Street, New York, N. Y.

Analyzing Foster Care in New York City

IN December the research bureau of the Welfare Council of New York City issued a report, "Planning for Brooklyn Children Needing Foster Care—A brief inquiry requested by the Brooklyn Council for Social Planning." Although this report is not for publication, certain information is available through a release issued by the Brooklyn Council for Social Planning in connection with an open forum on "Brooklyn's Unmet Child Welfare Needs," held on December 14:

Twenty-two child care agencies in Brooklyn cared for 6,585 dependent and neglected children in this borough on September 30, 1936, with 2,499 of these children in foster family boarding homes and 4,041 congregated in institutions, according to the Rev. Edward Swanstrom, director of the Catholic Guardian Society in the Diocese of Brooklyn.

The figures were part of a comprehensive survey of child-care facilities in Brooklyn, by comparison with said facilities existing in Greater New York as a whole, made by the Welfare Council of New York City.

These figures compared with 12,330 dependent and neglected children cared for by twenty-six Manhattan agencies, of which number 6,646 were cared for in foster family boarding homes and 5,034 in institutions.

The report indicated that not all children who are neglected and dependent are cared for either by private agencies or foster families in the borough of their residence and that these wards of the city may be found in sections widely separated from where they originally came.

Father Swanstrom pointed to certain barriers and restrictions which are set up by the agencies in the field of foster care for children, regarding the sex, age, color and race of their wards, as perhaps a cause for children being cared for in boroughs other than that of their residence.

A warning was sounded that a more comprehensive study of the present institutions operating in the field of child care is necessary if the haphazard development which characterized the growth of foster care agencies in the past were to be overcome.

Quoting from the annual report made by the Hon. William Hodson, commissioner, New York City Department of Public Welfare, "that the time is ripe for a comprehensive study of the whole situation and for the adoption of a program of organization which

will define the responsibility of the different public organizations clearly, each in relation to the other, and all of the public agencies in relation to the private charitable institutions and child-caring organizations," the survey of the Welfare Council traced the origins of some of the organizations which cater to the needs of underprivileged children to striking phenomena of war, epidemics or other disasters. Seldom, if ever, has there been a careful examination of the kinds of family circumstances that make foster care imperative, either temporarily or permanently, among the people of a given city or state.

The figures on dependent and neglected children for the other three boroughs in New York City are as follows:

Bronx—1,304 children cared for by five agencies, of which number 831 are in institutions and 436 in foster family boarding homes.

Queens—300 children cared for by two agencies, of which number 295 are in institutions and five in free foster family homes.

Richmond—295 children cared for by one agency, all of whom are in institutions, and none in foster family boarding homes.

Social Hygiene Meeting

ON National Social Hygiene Day, February 3, the American Social Hygiene Association (50 West 50th Street, New York City) will hold its annual meeting at Hotel Pennsylvania, New York. All sessions are open to the public.

Dr. William F. Snow, general director of the Association, states that important factors in the progress of the campaign against syphilis and gonorrhea are the funds available for this purpose to the U. S. Public Health Service and the Children's Bureau through the Social Security Act, and the changed attitude of newspapers and popular magazines which are now making possible the education of the general public through frank scientific and reassuring discussion.

Regional Child Welfare Conferences

THE Eastern Regional Conference of the Child Welfare League of America will be held in New York City on April 23 and 24, under the chairmanship of Miss Lou-Eva Longan, superintendent, St. Christopher's School, Dobbs Ferry, New York.

Dates for the Southern Regional Conference, New Orleans, are March 4 and 5. The chairman is Miss Susan K. Gillean, executive secretary, Children's Bureau, La. S.P.C.C., 611 Gravier Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.

Miss Mary E. Murphy, director, Elizabeth McCormick Memorial Fund, 848 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, has accepted chairmanship of the Mid-West Regional Conference, to be held in Chicago, probably during the latter half of March.

Plans for the New England Regional Conference are temporarily pending, due to change of chairmanship.

All those interested in child welfare are cordially welcome at the League's regional conferences. There is a small registration fee to meet incidental expenses.